
THE ACTS CHURCH 2:42
"EXPERIENCE REAL CHURCH"

April 6, 2014

TEXT: Joshua 14:6-15 KJV

Then the children of Judah came unto Joshua in Gilgal: and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite said unto him, Thou knowest the thing that the LORD said unto Moses the man of God concerning me and thee in Kadeshbarnea. (7) Forty years old was I when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadeshbarnea to espy out the land; and I brought him word again as it was in mine heart. (8) Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God. (9) And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God. (10) And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old. (11) As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in. (12) Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said. (13) And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance. (14) Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel. (15) And the name of Hebron before was Kirjatharba; which Arba was a great man among the Anakims. And the land had rest from war.

INTRO: Ask and It Shall Be Given

We have been on a journey with Joshua and the children of Israel as they have come to posses the Promised Land. Chapters 12 - 13, 15 – 19 of Joshua, mostly deal with the conquest and the dividing of the land to the children of Israel.

But today, on our One Year Anniversary as the Acts Church, we are looking into the biblical, historical record of Caleb, his faithfulness, his expectation concerning God's promise, and the fulfillment and God's answers to his prayers.

I. Caleb wholly followed the LORD

Caleb was a Man of Faithfulness

Joshua 14:8 KJV

…my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: ***but I*** | ***wholly followed the LORD my God***.

45 years ago Caleb and Joshua along with ten others spied out the Promised Land… Joshua and Caleb brought back a stirring report to go in and take the land but the other ten caused the hearts of the people to melt

Numbers 14:36-38 KJV

And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land, (37) Even ***those men that did bring up the evil*** | ***report*** upon the land, ***died by the plague before the LORD***. (38) **But Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land**, ***lived still.***

Joshua 14:9 KJV

And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, | and thy children's for ever, because ***thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God***.

II. "Give Me this Mountain"

Caleb was a Man of Faith

Proverbs 3:5-10 KJV

Trust in the LORD with **all thine heart**; and lean not unto thine own understanding. | (6) In **all thy ways acknowledge him**, and he shall direct thy paths. (7) Be not wise in

thine own eyes: **fear the LORD**, and depart from evil. (8) **It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.** (9) Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: (10) **So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine**.

It was time to start dividing the land – Joshua as leader had the responsibility and Caleb stepped up to claim His before any other!

JOSHUA 14:10-12KJV

And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old. (11) As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in. (12) ***Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day***; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said.

Caleb had been:

- Spared from the plague that took the lives of the unbelieving spies **forty-five years** earlier *(Num 14:36-38)*.
- He had been preserved during the wilderness wanderings.
- He had survived several years of war in Canaan.
- He knew that God would not have **kept** him **alive**, promising him a reward for his faith, only to give him over to the **Anakim**. So what if they were giants? **They were on his land**, and he would **drive them out** by the strength of God.
- He still saw things through the eyes of faith and not as they appeared outwardly. This was the secret of his abiding **strength** and amazing success. He was not about to retire.

Ask in faith believing = asking according to His Word – ask based on what He has promised

JAMES 1:6-8 KJV

But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. (7) ***For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord***. (8) A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

JOSHUA 14:13-14 KJV

And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh ***Hebron*** for an inheritance. (14) Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, ***because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel***.

Caleb's request was based upon the promise of Moses – the promise of God's Word!

It took him 45 years to realize that promise…

Hebrews 11:1-2 KJV

Now ***faith*** is the ***substance*** of things ***hoped for***, the ***evidence*** of things ***not seen***. (2) For by it the elders obtained a good report.

III. Give Me Springs of Water

Ask in faith believing = asking according to His Will – According to His Heart

Joshua 15:13-19 KJV

And unto ***Caleb*** the son of Jephunneh he ***gave a part*** among the children of Judah, ***according to the commandment of the LORD to Joshua***, even the city of Arba the father of Anak, which city is Hebron. (14) And Caleb drove thence the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai, the children of Anak. (15) And he went up thence to the inhabitants of Debir: and the name of Debir before was Kirjathsepher. (16) And Caleb said, He that smiteth Kirjathsepher, and taketh it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter to wife. (17) And Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, took it: and he gave him Achsah his daughter to wife. (18) And it came to pass, as she came unto him, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted off her ass; and ***Caleb said unto her, What wouldest thou?*** (19) ***Who answered, Give me a blessing; for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water. And he gave her the upper springs, and the nether springs***.

(Achsah) -- She knew her daddy's heart – she asked according to His will

John 15:7 KJV

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ***ye shall ask*** what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Matthew 7:7-11 KJV

Ask, and ***it shall be given*** you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: (8) For every one that ***asketh receiveth***; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. (9) Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? (10) Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? (11) If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, **how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things *to them that ask him*?**

John 14:12-15 KJV

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. (13) And ***whatsoever ye shall ask*** in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. (14) ***If ye shall ask*** any thing in my name, I will do it. (15) If ye love me, keep my commandments.

James 4:2 KJV

… yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

1 John 5:14-15 KJV

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: (15) And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

I want to encourage you as the Acts Church to ask in faith that God would provide us with an awesome building – with nursery and workers – children and workers – youth and workers – family ministries and workers – mission outreaches and workers – worship pastors and full-time pastors, Bible teachers – Evangelists – Missionaries – All To the Glory of God!